United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change

FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.10

Distr.: General
21 October 2016

English only

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
Forty-fifth session
Marrakech, 7–14 November 2016

Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

Progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This report provides an overview of the progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change since the forty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice. It describes the continued engagement of Parties, partner organizations, regional centres and networks, experts and communities of practice and the development of new partnerships in the implementation of activities under the Nairobi work programme. It highlights collaborative activities undertaken with the Adaptation Committee and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group. It concludes with a brief overview of the next steps on implementation of activities under the Nairobi work programme.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its twenty-eighth session, requested the secretariat to provide a report for consideration at each of its sessions, starting from SBSTA 29, on progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP).[1, 2]

B. Background

2. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its nineteenth session, decided to continue the NWP within the framework of the provisions of decision 2/CP.11, addressing the knowledge needs arising from, inter alia, the Cancun Adaptation Framework and other relevant workstreams and bodies under the Convention, and the knowledge needs identified by Parties.[3]

3. In addition, COP 19 requested the SBSTA to take stock of progress in the implementation of the NWP and to further elaborate additional activities, including the timing of such activities, at SBSTA 44.[4] At SBSTA 41, the SBSTA decided to consider and elaborate at SBSTA 44 relevant activities under the NWP that support the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs).[5] In accordance with decision 17/CP.19, the SBSTA took stock of progress in the implementation of the NWP and acknowledged the achievements and progress made under the NWP to date. The SBSTA welcomed the efforts of the secretariat in implementing activities under the NWP under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA. The SBSTA recognized the contributions of NWP partner organizations, including regional centres and networks and international organizations, as well as of other relevant organizations, in the implementation of activities under the NWP.

4. SBSTA 44 also recognized the role of the NWP in providing support in the areas of adaptation knowledge and related stakeholder engagement to other workstreams and constituted bodies under the Convention, including the Adaptation Committee (AC) and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), and noted the potential role the NWP could play in new processes under the Paris Agreement.

5. SBSTA 44 concluded that additional technical work on health, human settlements, ecosystems and water resources, economic diversification, and indicators of adaptation and resilience would be undertaken under the NWP to inform adaptation planning and action at the regional, national and subnational levels.

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[1] FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 18.

[2] Information on progress made between SBSTA 28 and SBSTA 44 is contained in documents FCCC/SBSTA/2008/INF.5, FCCC/SBSTA/2009/INF.3, FCCC/SBSTA/2009/INF.5, FCCC/SBSTA/2010/INF.2, FCCC/SBSTA/2010/INF.7, FCCC/SBSTA/2011/INF.2, FCCC/SBSTA/2011/INF.9, FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.1, FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.5, FCCC/SBSTA/2013/INF.1, FCCC/SBSTA/2013/INF.6, FCCC/SBSTA/2014/INF.7, FCCC/SBSTA/2014/INF.15, FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.2, FCCC/SBSTA/2015/INF.8 and FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.4.

[3] Decision 17/CP.19, paragraph 1.

[4] Decision 17/CP.19, paragraph 13(b).

[5] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, paragraph 17.

6. SBSTA 44 concluded that activities under the NWP should integrate the consideration of vulnerable communities in addition to integrating gender issues, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, and the role of and impacts on ecosystems, where appropriate.

7. SBSTA 44 concluded that the NWP would contribute to closing adaptation knowledge gaps at the national and subnational levels through fostering collaborations among, inter alia, policymakers, research and scientific communities, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, practitioners and financial institutions.

8. SBSTA 44 also agreed on a list of actions to be undertaken under the NWP to enhance the effectiveness of the modalities of the NWP, including ways to enhance the dissemination of knowledge generated under the NWP and to improve learning to scale up adaptation actions at all levels.

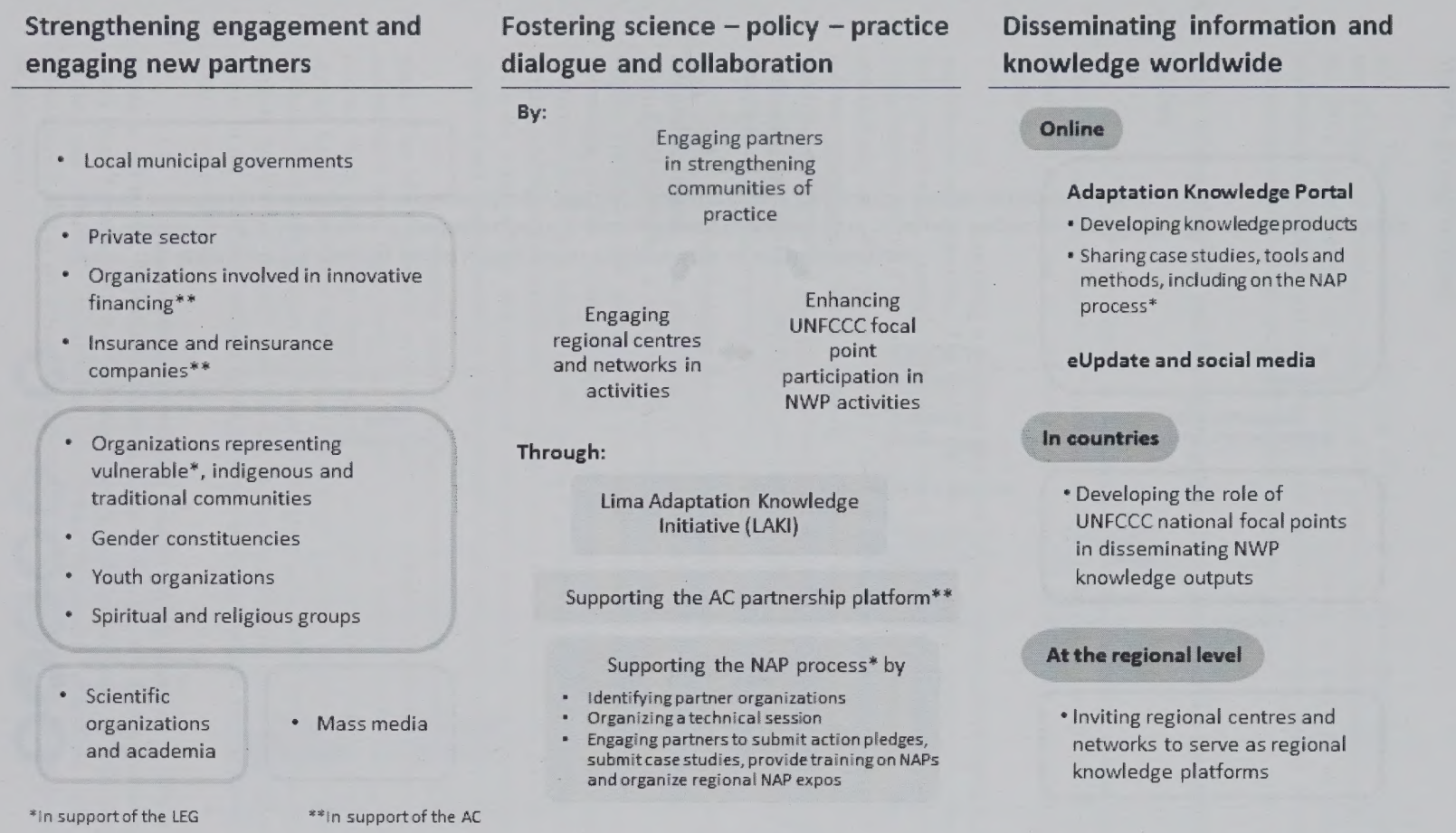
9. Relevant activities and deliverables for 2016 and beyond, as mandated at COP 19[6] and SBSTA 40, 41, 43 and 44,[7] are summarized in figures 1 and 2.

[6] Decision 17/CP.19.

[7] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/2, FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, FCCC/SBSTA/2015/5 and FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2.

Figure 1

Overview of activities and deliverables scheduled for 2016 and beyond under the Nairobi work programme

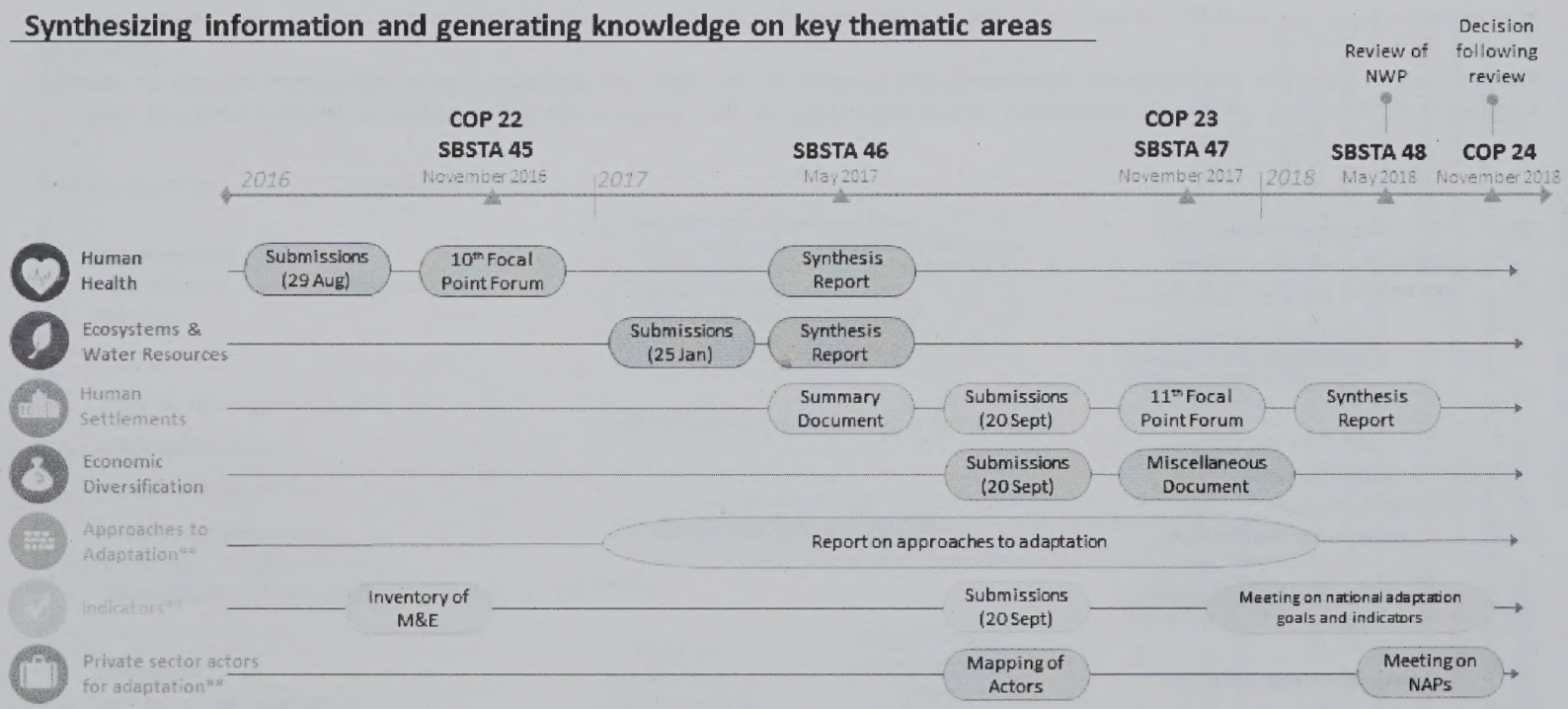

Strengthening engagement and engaging new partners
• Local municipal governments
• Private sector
• Organizations involved in innovative financing**
• Insurance and reinsurance companies**
• Organizations representing vulnerable*, indigenous and traditional communities
• Gender constituencies
• Youth organizations
• Spiritual and religious groups
• Scientific organizations and academia
• Mass media
*In support of the LEG
**In support of the AC
Fostering science – policy – practice dialogue and collaboration
By:
Engaging partners in strengthening communities of practice
Engaging regional centres and networks in activities
Enhancing UNFCCC focal point participation in NWP activities
Through:
Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI)
Supporting the AC partnership platform**
Supporting the NAP process* by
• Identifying partner organizations
• Organizing a technical session
• Engaging partners to submit action pledges, submit case studies, provide training on NAPs and organize regional NAP expos
Disseminating information and knowledge worldwide
Online
Adaptation Knowledge Portal
• Developing knowledge products
• Sharing case studies, tools and methods, including on the NAP process*
eUpdate and social media
In countries
• Developing the role of UNFCCC national focal points in disseminating NWP knowledge outputs
At the regional level
• Inviting regional centres and networks to serve as regional knowledge platforms

Note: This figure describes modalities and activities mandated under the NWP, which include: strengthening existing and developing new partnerships (column 1); fostering collaboration to close adaptation knowledge gaps (column 2); and disseminating information and knowledge to foster learning (column 3).

Abbreviations: AC = Adaptation Committee, LEG = Least Developed Countries Expert Group, NAP = national adaptation plan, NWP = Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

Figure 2

Outline of activities related to information and knowledge on key thematic areas scheduled for 2016 and beyond under the Nairobi work programme



Note: This figure describes activities related to information and knowledge on key thematic areas.

Abbreviations: COP = Conference of the Parties, M&E = monitoring and evaluation, NAP = national adaptation plan, NWP = Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, SBSTA = Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.

II. Progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme

10. This chapter describes the role of the NWP in advancing adaptation action through knowledge, and provides an overview of the progress made in implementing activities under the NWP since SBSTA 44. In addition, it also provides an overview of recent activities undertaken in collaboration with the AC and the LEG that have helped to strengthen the knowledge support role of the NWP for these constituted bodies.

A. Role of the Nairobi work programme: from adaptation knowledge to action

11. The NWP contributes to advancing adaptation action through knowledge by providing knowledge support to Parties, in particular developing countries, as well as to the constituted bodies (the AC and the LEG) through the following four areas of work (see figure 3):

(a) **Engaging a growing network of non-Party stakeholders to share their experience and expertise.** The NWP has over ten years of experience in convening non-Party stakeholders (currently over 320), which include national, regional and international organizations, as well as global and regional centres and networks. These non-Party stakeholders are often pioneers in the field of adaptation at national or local levels, and include many organizations operating in direct support of national governments and institutions. The NWP has built collaborative communities of practice through years of cultivating partnerships. The NWP provides recognition of the experience that non-Party stakeholders share in response to Parties' needs;

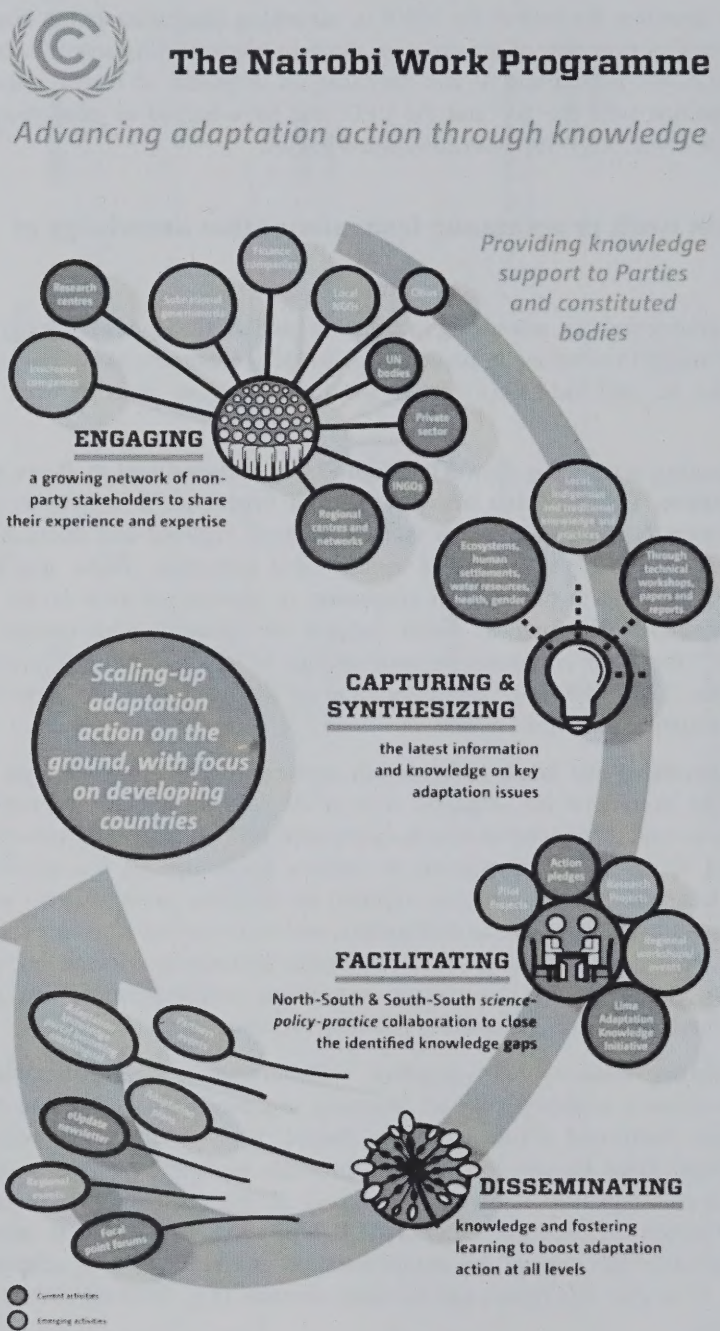
(b) **Synthesizing the latest information and capturing knowledge on key adaptation issues.** The secretariat has engaged with NWP partners, global and regional centres and networks, as well as collaborated with constituted bodies under the Convention, on the collection and synthesis of information to capture knowledge. It has developed knowledge outputs (technical papers, synthesis reports) on thematic areas such as water resources, ecosystems, human health, human settlements, and on cross-cutting issues such as gender, and local and indigenous knowledge. Such knowledge products provide methods and tools for vulnerability and adaptation assessment, monitoring and evaluation, and good practices and lessons learned to inform adaptation planning processes at various levels;

(c) **Fostering science–policy–practice collaboration to close knowledge gaps.** The NWP provides a unique space for bringing together Parties and non-Party stakeholders from both North and South to discuss Parties' needs and possible ways to address them. The Focal Point Forum, for example, provides such an opportunity on an annual basis. The Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI), a collaborative effort between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the secretariat, aims to address knowledge barriers that impede the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action in the context of various subregions and thematic domains (e.g. different sectors and areas of vulnerabilities);

(d) **Disseminating knowledge and fostering learning to boost adaptation action at all levels.** Technical workshops, expert meetings and events, including the annual Focal Point Forums, continue to foster learning and the exchange of information between Parties and non-Party stakeholders on various themes of adaptation. The Adaptation Knowledge Portal is an online platform to facilitate the global dissemination of knowledge on adaptation.

Figure 3

The Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change mandates and modalities for knowledge support on adaptation under the UNFCCC


The Nairobi Work Programme
Advancing adaptation action through knowledge
Providing knowledge support to Parties and constituted bodies
ENGAGING
a growing network of non-party stakeholders to share their experience and expertise
Research centres
Local NGOs
UN bodies
Private sector
Regional centres and networks
Ecosystems, human settlements, water resources, health, gender
Through technical workshops, papers and reports
CAPTURING & SYNTHESIZING
the latest information and knowledge on key adaptation issues
Scaling-up adaptation action on the ground, with focus on developing countries
Action pledges
Pilot projects
Research projects
Regional workshops/ events
Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative
FACILITATING
North-South & South-South science-policy-practice collaboration to close the identified knowledge gaps
eAdapta newsletter
Focal point forums
DISSEMINATING
knowledge and fostering learning to boost adaptation action at all levels
Current activities
Emerging activities

Abbreviations: INGOs = international non-governmental organizations, NGOs = non-governmental organizations.

B. Overview of progress made in the capturing, analysis and synthesis of information and knowledge to inform adaptation planning processes at all levels and scales

12. Several activities have been undertaken under the NWP since SBSTA 44 that focused on the collection and synthesis of information and knowledge. These include:

(a) Submission[8] of information on recent work undertaken by 13 Parties and 10 relevant organizations (including 6 NWP partner organizations) in the area of climate change impacts on human health, including: changes in the geographical distribution of diseases; new and emerging health issues, including tropical diseases and their impacts on social and economic structures, as well as the issues of malnutrition, waterborne diseases, vector-borne diseases and disaster impacts; and the effects of climate change on health and productivity in the work place, with implications for occupational health and safety and social protection.[9] The submissions will inform the 10th Focal Point Forum, referred to in chapter II.D below;

(b) An inventory of ongoing monitoring and evaluation work, in response to recommendations by the AC, referred to in chapter III.A below. The inventory[10] is derived from a review of ongoing monitoring and evaluation work undertaken by countries (at national and subnational levels) and relevant organizations. It builds upon relevant activities undertaken by the AC and under the NWP. Approximately 90 examples of monitoring and evaluation tools and frameworks have been incorporated into the inventory. Information in the inventory is presented in a spreadsheet. For each monitoring and evaluation tool and framework, the spreadsheet includes a short description, the name of the responsible government or organization, the sector and the scale of applicability, and whether or not the tool or framework has been implemented. If the tool or framework has been implemented, brief information on the case studies is also included in the inventory. The key results are presented in the background paper[11] prepared for the tenth meeting of the AC.

C. Overview of progress made in facilitating collaboration to close adaptation knowledge gaps

Implementation of the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative

13. At COP 20, the President of the COP launched LAKI, an action pledge under the NWP.[12] A collaborative effort between UNEP and the secretariat, the initiative aims at prioritizing adaptation knowledge gaps and catalysing responses to close the knowledge gaps in the context of various subregions and thematic domains (e.g. different sectors and areas of vulnerabilities).

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[8] Submissions from Parties are available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/SitePages/sessions.aspx?showOnlyCurrentCalls=1&populateData=1&expectedsubmissionfrom=Parties&focalBodies=SBSTA> and submissions from NWP partner organizations and other relevant organizations are available at <http://unfccc.int/7482>.

[9] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 15(a).

[10] The inventory of ongoing M&E work is available at <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/application/msexcel/ac10_5b_inventory_m_and_e.xls>.

[11] The background paper (AC/2016/6) is available at <http://unfccc.int/9653>.

[12] Details of the action pledge are available at <https://www3.unfccc.int/pls/apex/f?p=333:31:3398643959867755::NO::P31_ID:461>.

14. SBSTA 41 encouraged the implementation of this initiative in subregions, particularly in vulnerable developing countries such as the least developed countries, small island developing States and African States.[13]

15. The workshops for LAKI in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region and the Indian Ocean islands will be held in parallel and back to back with the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network forum from 20 to 22 October 2016 in Colombo. The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) are collaborating with UNEP and the secretariat on the implementation of LAKI in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region and the Indian Ocean islands, respectively. ICIMOD and IWMI will bring their institutional experience, expertise and networks in the implementation of LAKI in these subregions.

16. The purposes of these workshops are: to better understand and identify priority knowledge gaps for the subregions; to discuss opportunities for collaboration in undertaking response actions to address such knowledge gaps; and to identify additional response actions as well as institutions that could take up action to close the priority knowledge gaps that cannot be addressed by the workshop participants or the organizations they represent. The outcomes of the workshops will be disseminated in major international and regional climate meetings and conferences to raise awareness of the existing knowledge needs in the subregions, and to foster action to respond to such needs.

D. Overview of progress made in promoting the sharing and dissemination of information and knowledge, as well as facilitating learning from adaptation experiences at all levels and scales

1. The 10th Focal Point Forum of the Nairobi work programme

17. Focal Point Forums, held in conjunction with a COP, have provided a useful platform to promote learning and the exchange of information between NWP partners and Party representatives.[14]

18. The 10th Focal Point Forum of the NWP will focus on the topic of health and adaptation, and will be held on 9 November 2016 in conjunction with SBSTA 45 in Marrakech, Morocco.[15]

19. SBSTA 45 invited submissions from Parties, NWP partner organizations and other relevant organizations on the activities described in paragraph 12(a) above.[16]

20. Through a facilitated interactive dialogue, the participants are expected to gain a shared understanding of the activities that are undertaken in response to the current and predicted impacts of climate change on human health and to discuss any new actions that their countries, communities or organizations would like to undertake in addressing the key challenges in various topics related to this thematic area.

21. The outcomes of the 10th Focal Point Forum discussion and the key findings of submissions relating to various topics on health and adaptation, including good practices and lessons learned, will be captured in a synthesis report for consideration at SBSTA 46 (May 2017). The outcomes of the forum will also be disseminated through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal. Building on the outcomes, the secretariat will continue dialogue with the

[13] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, paragraph 19.
[14] Summaries of previous forums are available at <http://unfccc.int/6989>.
[15] Further details of the Focal Point Forum are available at <http://unfccc.int/9926>.
[16] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 15.

participants, other relevant organizations and individual experts, with a view to implementing collaborative actions to address specific needs identified during the forum.

2. Adaptation Knowledge Portal

22. The Adaptation Knowledge Portal was developed as a gateway for sharing information and knowledge on adaptation and for facilitating adaptation planning and implementation at all levels.[17] Information disseminated through the portal includes information generated under the NWP, by relevant bodies and workstreams on adaptation under the UNFCCC process, and by NWP partners and broader adaptation communities of practice.

23. Launched during COP 21, the user-friendly online portal facilitates comprehensive as well as targeted queries regarding information on adaptation. SBSTA 43 recognized the role the portal would have in enhancing the dissemination of knowledge developed under the NWP, the AC and the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, and the contributions made by Parties, partner organizations and regional centres and networks.[18]

24. In order to improve access to and relevance of knowledge for end users,[19] a number of thematic area pages have been developed within the portal[20] that provide information on past and upcoming technical work undertaken under the NWP on the topics of: ecosystems; water resources; human settlements; human health; gender; and local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices. The knowledge resources page has been updated to include the latest knowledge resources produced under the AC and the NWP. The page also provides a graphical representation of the different sources of information on adaptation generated under the UNFCCC.[21] Regional pages[22] have been created to share regionally relevant news on activities, events and publications communicated by national organizations and regional centres and networks that are partners to the NWP, and to provide detailed updates on the regional implementation of LAKI. News pages, which aim to include infographics and videos, are updated on a more frequent basis than other pages and are routinely advertised on The Adaptation Exchange – the Facebook page of the Adaptation programme of the secretariat.

25. In order to make the Adaptation Knowledge Portal more accessible to non-English speaking users, initial efforts have been made to gather information and experience in French and Spanish (to start with), including through the provision of templates for Parties and organizations to contribute information in these languages. With regard to the compilation of local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices,[23] the call for contributions offered the possibility for Parties and NWP partners to contribute in French or Spanish, which

[17] The Adaptation Knowledge Portal is available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/Home.aspx>.

[18] FCCC/SBSTA/2015/5, paragraph 14.

[19] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/, paragraph 20(b).

[20] These Adaptation Knowledge Portal pages are available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/Thematic-areas.aspx>.

[21] These Adaptation Knowledge Portal pages are available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/UNFCCC-knowledge-resources.aspx>.

[22] These Adaptation Knowledge Portal pages are available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/Partners.aspx>.

[23] The compilation of contributions in Spanish was made available at SBSTA 44 and is available at <http://unfccc.int/9556.php>.

resulted in the production of an additional compilation document describing local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices written in Spanish.[24]

26. The possibility of linking the Adaptation Knowledge Portal with other knowledge platforms has been investigated with the secretariat's information technology team, but raises security issues related to the official nature of the UNFCCC website. However, 28 authoritative knowledge platforms on adaptation have been added as knowledge resources on the Adaptation Knowledge Portal and these can be easily browsed through the advanced search page. Moreover, the mutual referencing of portals and platforms is currently being explored with some NWP partner organizations.

3. Organization of the joint technical session with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group on considerations of vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in adaptation planning and implementation

27. During the NAP Expo held in Bonn, Germany, in July 2016,[25] a technical session was organized jointly with the LEG to discuss how to consider vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in the process to formulate and implement NAPs (which is referred to in chapter III.B). Relevant NWP partners and expert organizations collaborated on and contributed to the organization of the technical session, which was a success.

28. The key conclusions of the technical session include the following:

(a) Recognizing the interlinkages between vulnerable communities and ecosystems, it is crucial to design adaptation options that strengthen the resilience to climate change of both communities and ecosystems;

(b) Countries have accumulated experiences and lessons learned with regard to considering vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in NAPs;

(c) Existing information on assessment and mapping tools, empirical evidence of good practices, and lessons learned need to be documented and shared at all levels;

(d) Countries need to advance their work from planning to implementation on the basis of their long-term priorities, recognizing that comprehensive planning is useful but not critical to initiate implementation;

(e) Countries should consider ecosystem-based adaptation measures as part of an overall approach to adaptation;

(f) Local, indigenous and traditional knowledge should be taken into account in adaptation planning so as to develop plans that are in line with the ways in which vulnerable communities wish to adapt.

29. The LEG discussed a draft outline for an information paper, based on the outcomes of the technical session, on considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in the context of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The LEG decided to further engage NWP partner organizations in preparing this information paper from the draft outline. The LEG extended its gratitude to the NWP partner organizations that had participated in the NAP Expo and in producing the draft outline.[26]

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[24] Available at <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/es_compilacion_litkp.pdf>.

[25] Further details on the joint session are available at <http://napexpo.org/2016/sessions/parallel-special-events/>.

[26] FCCC/SBI/2016/18, paragraphs 56–58.

4. Nairobi work programme eUpdate and use of social media

30. The latest issues of eUpdate, an NWP newsletter disseminated three times per year to Parties, NWP partner organizations and other interested organizations and individuals, were published in May and August 2016. eUpdate showcases the role of the NWP in advancing adaptation actions through knowledge – it does this by highlighting recent and upcoming activities under the NWP (including calls for submission), by communicating engagement opportunities with other workstreams and bodies under the Convention, and by featuring the views and work of NWP partner organizations on various topics related to adaptation. Taking into account the experience of smartphone users, the two latest issues of eUpdate are more concise and reader-friendly than previous issues.

31. A video interview series has been launched to showcase the views and experiences of NWP partner organizations on current adaptation issues and challenges. The first episode in the interview series addresses the implications of the Paris Agreement for non-Party stakeholders. The second episode focuses on five success factors that can help institutions work with vulnerable communities in adaptation planning and implementation. The second episode was recorded during the NAP Expo. The episode aims to raise awareness on the importance of working with vulnerable communities to achieve resilience, and introduces practical recommendations to facilitate the inclusion of and collaboration with vulnerable communities in adaptation planning and implementation. The video interview series is available on the UNFCCC YouTube channel.[27]

32. The interview series, as well as all other news items shared through eUpdate, have been disseminated through The Adaptation Exchange Facebook page.

5. Enhancing the participation of UNFCCC national focal points in activities under the Nairobi work programme

33. As one of the ways to enhance the effectiveness of the modalities of the NWP, SBSTA 44 requested the secretariat to enhance the participation of UNFCCC national focal points in meetings, workshops and other relevant activities under the NWP, and to enhance their role in the dissemination of knowledge outputs generated under the NWP to countries, including through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal.[28] In September 2016, the secretariat launched a survey to gather information from UNFCCC national focal points on their experience and needs, as well as their recommendations for facilitating their participation in NWP events and disseminating knowledge outputs under the NWP. Fifty-two UNFCCC national focal points responded to the survey. Besides four respondents who did not indicate which region they belong to, respondents include 13 from Europe, 12 from Asia, 11 from Africa, 8 from Latin America and the Caribbean, 3 from Oceania and 1 from Northern America. The survey results contributed to a better understanding of the current challenges and expectations of the UNFCCC national focal points, and helped the secretariat to identify immediate next steps. The main results of the survey and proposed actions by the secretariat are presented in paragraphs 34–37 below.

34. **Regarding participation in meetings, workshops and other relevant activities under the NWP**, 77 per cent of the respondents who had participated in such events under the NWP indicated that the events had been relevant to their work, and 97 per cent of the respondents would be interested in taking part in future events organized under the NWP. The main barriers to their participation appear to be the lack of government funding (66 per cent), but also the lack of interest by their governments in the work of the NWP (26 per cent), the fact that other governmental experts are nominated to participate (22 per cent) and the

[27] The video interview series is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0rz10jXWb8>.

[28] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 20(c).

short advance notice from the secretariat in sending the invitations (15 per cent). The respondents indicated their preferences for future events under the NWP as being:

(a) To provide respondents with better access to the information and knowledge generated under the NWP (81 per cent), networking opportunities (74 per cent) and capacity-building on certain themes and/or questions (67 per cent) – the latter option being of particular interest to respondents from Africa and Asia;

(b) To take place at the regional and/or subregional level (72 per cent), and to present both the latest scientific findings (78 per cent) and real experiences from other countries (72 per cent). In addition, 81 per cent of the respondents indicated their openness to the possibility of co-organizing NWP events;

(c) To facilitate interaction with local governments and municipalities (66 per cent), scientists and researchers (62 per cent), finance institution representatives (62 per cent), private sector company representatives (50 per cent) and NGO representatives working on vulnerable communities (50 per cent). Respondents from Asia and Africa gave higher ratings to the latter category;

(d) To be organized under the thematic areas of ecosystems (75 per cent), water resources (75 per cent), vulnerable communities (69 per cent), human health (65 per cent) and economic diversification (50 per cent). Fewer respondents seemed interested in gender (31 per cent), human settlements (28 per cent) and traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems (25 per cent). Looking at regionally disaggregated results, respondents from Africa are principally interested in vulnerable communities, human health, ecosystems and human settlements. Respondents from Asia appear to be mainly concerned with issues related to water resources, ecosystems and, to a lesser degree, economic diversification and vulnerable communities;

(e) To address the adaptation planning and implementation issues of developing indicators of adaptation and resilience (81 per cent), developing NAPs (71 per cent) and linking national and local planning processes (65 per cent). "Developing NAPs" was the most chosen option among respondents from Africa and Asia, and the support of the secretariat in that area was repeatedly called for by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in the "suggestions" section of the survey.

35. Based on the survey results, and building on the suggestions made by some respondents, the secretariat will take a number of steps to increase the participation of UNFCCC national focal points in meetings, workshops and other relevant activities under the NWP. The secretariat will strive to communicate early and use simple and visual means (including social media) to share information on events organized under the NWP. In future events under the NWP, the secretariat will seek to ensure a balance of presentations on the latest scientific findings and on on-the-ground experiences, as well as to increase participation from local governments and municipalities, financial institutions and the private sector. In order to better respond to regionally differentiated needs, and to address interests in terms of thematic areas and adaptation planning and implementation issues, the secretariat will explore, with interested Parties and NWP partner organizations, the opportunity of organizing theme- or topic-specific events (including in support of the NAP process) at the regional level.

36. **Regarding the dissemination of knowledge outputs generated under the NWP to countries, including through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal**, the main barriers seem to be the lack of awareness about the knowledge outputs (46 per cent), the lack of time and in-house resources (38 per cent), the excessive technicality and complexity of the products (35 per cent) and the language barrier (i.e. insufficient understanding of English in the country) (35 per cent). Nevertheless, 80 per cent of respondents indicated that they disseminate the knowledge outputs of the NWP, either when they come across interesting

information on the UNFCCC website or the Adaptation Knowledge Portal, or when they receive such information from the secretariat. The survey results indicate particular patterns of dissemination:

(a) Ninety-one per cent of the respondents disseminated NWP knowledge outputs via email, 36 per cent in meetings and only 9 per cent through social media. However, half of the respondents, including a higher percentage in Africa, indicated that they would be willing to disseminate information through social media (e.g. Facebook and Twitter) in the future;

(b) The respondents disseminated synthesis reports and technical papers (65 per cent), progress reports on the NWP (43 per cent), workshop reports and Focal Point Forum summary notes (43 per cent) and policy briefs or synopsis series documents (34 per cent). Thirty-seven per cent of respondents recommended that the secretariat develop more sector-specific knowledge products (e.g. synopsis series) under the NWP to facilitate the dissemination process;

(c) When disseminating information, the respondents targeted their own team (70 per cent), other ministries of the central government (65 per cent), other teams in their own ministry (47 per cent), the scientific community (39 per cent), subnational and local governments (26 per cent), non-governmental organizations and civil society (22 per cent) and the private sector (17 per cent). Forty-five per cent of respondents recommended that the secretariat develop knowledge products for specific target groups in order to facilitate the dissemination process;

(d) The Adaptation Knowledge Portal is considered user-friendly by 74 per cent of the respondents and is regularly visited by 52 per cent of them. The most popular pages are those on thematic areas, case studies, knowledge resources and tools. In order to improve its user-friendliness, respondents suggested that the Adaptation Knowledge Portal be linked with other adaptation portals and translated into French and Spanish. The latter suggestion is corroborated by the fact that 45 per cent of respondents recommended that the knowledge products under the NWP be translated into local languages to facilitate dissemination, with a higher percentage of respondents from Africa favouring this response.

37. Based on the survey results, and building on the suggestions made by some respondents, a number of steps will be taken by the secretariat to enhance the dissemination of knowledge outputs generated under the NWP to countries, including through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal. For the release of each knowledge product, the secretariat will send a short presentation email to each UNFCCC national focal point, indicating possible target audience(s), and in parallel will share this information on the Adaptation Knowledge Portal and on social media. The secretariat will also consider developing more theme-specific and audience-specific knowledge products so as to provide an adequate level of information for various target audiences. Regarding the possible translation of knowledge products, the secretariat will investigate opportunities for collaboration with NWP partner organizations, including regional centres and networks.

III. Support in the areas of adaptation knowledge and stakeholder engagement provided to adaptation-related workstreams and bodies under the Convention

38. The SBSTA welcomed the activities which had been recommended by the AC and the LEG to be undertaken under the NWP[29] in response to an invitation from the Chair of the

[29] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/INF.4, paragraphs 30–34.

SBSTA, and requested the secretariat to undertake those activities under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA. It noted that the activities will strengthen the role of the NWP in providing knowledge support to the work of the AC and the LEG. The SBSTA also noted that these activities will strengthen the role of the NWP in supporting the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

A. Activities in response to recommendations from the Adaptation Committee

39. The secretariat, under the overall guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, undertook two activities in response to recommendations from the AC.

40. First, the secretariat provided inputs to the organization by the AC of a side event held during SBSTA 44 and SBI 44, and delivered a presentation highlighting the relevant work undertaken under the NWP.[30] With regard to establishing a partnership platform with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks, the secretariat also delivered a presentation highlighting the key functions and relevant work and emerging activities under the NWP during the tenth meeting of the AC. The AC agreed to request the secretariat supporting the NWP, in collaboration with the Climate Technology Centre and Network, to prepare an overview of existing platforms, including gaps, and report back on progress made to the twelfth meeting of the AC.[31]

41. Second, the secretariat compiled an inventory of ongoing monitoring and evaluation work[32] and prepared a background paper [33] for the tenth meeting of the AC, for the AC to agree on additional work on monitoring and evaluation systems and impact evaluations, and the secretariat presented the key findings of the inventory during the tenth meeting of the AC.

B. Activities in response to recommendations from the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

42. The secretariat, under the overall guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, undertook several activities in response to recommendations from the LEG.

43. In order to respond to the mandate of the LEG to engage regional centres and networks, the secretariat shared a list of the NWP partners that are directly involved in supporting the least developed countries in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, for consideration by the LEG in inviting regional centres and networks to nominate focal points for its work.

44. During the 2016 NAP Expo, a technical session was held jointly with the LEG to discuss how vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems can best be considered in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.[34] Relevant NWP partners collaborated and contributed to the successful organization of the technical session. As a next step, the secretariat will engage with relevant experts, including NWP partners, and will provide

[30] Details of the side event are available at <http://unfccc.int/9576>.

[31] Further details on the tenth meeting of the AC, including a presentation on the overview of the NWP, are available at <http://unfccc.int/9653>.

[32] The inventory of ongoing M&E work is available at <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/application/msexcel/ac10_5b_inventory_m_and_e.xls>.

[33] The background paper (AC/2016/6) is available at <http://unfccc.int/9653>.

[34] Further details on the joint session are available at <http://napexpo.org/2016/sessions/parallel-special-events/>.

inputs to the LEG in order for it to prepare an information paper on considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in the context of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

45. The secretariat organized a networking session with NWP partners and relevant organizations held during the 2016 NAP Expo to facilitate dialogue on opportunities for inputs and collaboration on activities under the NWP, in particular on activities to support the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Although the session was held with only a small group of experts who attended the NAP Expo, the brainstorming confirmed the interest of both NWP partners and non-partner organizations in supporting the activities on NAPs, including the following:

(a) Submission of action pledges in support of the process to formulate and implement NAPs in areas such as: information on available tools; case studies on practical implementation of adaptation measures; and inputs on best available tools for engaging stakeholders at the national level;

(b) Contribution to the Open NAP case studies and training on NAPs;

(c) Organization of regional NAP Expos based on the (global) NAP Expos.

46. The outcomes of the session have been communicated to the LEG for its recommendations on next steps.

47. The calls for action pledges have also been disseminated through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal[35] and opportunities for collaboration for NWP partners and relevant organizations have been shared through the August edition of the NWP eUpdate.[36]

IV. Developing new partnerships and strengthening engagement and collaboration with Nairobi work programme partner organizations and other non-Party stakeholders

48. This chapter provides an overview of NWP partner organizations and action pledges, and of engagement and collaboration with partner organizations and regional centres and networks under the NWP.

A. Strengthening engagement with partner organizations and developing new partnerships under specific thematic areas

49. Since SBSTA 44, the secretariat has taken the opportunity of a number of events and mandated activities on various thematic areas to strengthen the engagement of existing NWP partners and reach out to relevant non-Party stakeholders:

(a) At the 2016 NAP Expo, the co-organization of the technical session with the LEG on vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems in adaptation planning and implementation[37] led to the strengthening of collaboration with relevant NWP partner organizations and to the identification of expert organizations in the field of vulnerable communities and/or ecosystems. As well as contributing to various sessions held during the NAP Expo, these organizations could contribute their expertise to future technical work

[35] The calls for action pledges are available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/call-action-pledge.aspx>.

[36] The August edition of the NWP eUpdate is available at <http://unfccc.int/7565>.

[37] Additional information on the expert meeting is available at <http://napexpo.org/2016/sessions/parallel-special-events/>.

under the NWP, including the upcoming call for submissions on ecosystem and water resources.[38] Interested expert organizations will also be invited to join the NWP as partner organizations;

(b) Resilient Cities 2016, the seventh global forum on urban resilience and adaptation organized by Local Governments for Sustainability,[39] provided the opportunity to present the new mandates on human settlements under the NWP to a large audience of relevant non-Party stakeholders, including local and municipal governments.[40] It paved the way for a strengthening of collaboration with the Urban Climate Change Research Network (UCCRN), a NWP partner organization. UCCRN and its network of 750 scholars and experts on climate change in cities are likely to be key contributors to the call for submission on human settlements.[41] A joint networking event with UCCRN is planned during Habitat III,[42] in order to attract non-Party stakeholders working on human settlements to contribute to the call for submissions on human settlements under the NWP and to join the NWP as partner organizations;

(c) The call for submissions on climate impacts on human health was useful to identify relevant health organizations that are not NWP partner organizations. The identification of such relevant health organizations was carried out with the support of the World Health Organization, a key NWP partner organization in this field. In order to foster better sharing of information, relevant health organizations that contributed submissions have been invited to join the NWP as partner organizations and communicate relevant case studies and additional information on knowledge resources to be shared through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal. As a result, the Functional Architecture of Mammals in their Environment (FAME) laboratory of the University of Thessaly and the Centre for Health and the Global Environment (CHanGE) of the University of Washington have joined the NWP as partner organizations.

B. Overview of partner organizations, action pledges and contributions to knowledge resources under the Nairobi work programme

50. Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, regional centres and networks, community-based organizations, the private sector, practitioners and individual experts have all been contributing to the implementation of the NWP. The NWP has engaged relevant organizations as partner organizations, which are committed to aligning their activities with the objectives of the NWP and to carrying out initiatives, including through action pledges and collaborative actions, where appropriate, in order to contribute to the enhanced provision and application of information on, and knowledge of, climate risk assessment and adaptation planning and implementation.

51. The number of NWP partner organizations now stands at 323. Of these, 50 NWP partners are working in the least developed countries, while 29 are working in small island developing States. During the reporting period, the following eight organizations joined the NWP as new partners: Abt Associates; Central Asia Mountain Hub-Mountain Partnership; CHanGE; FAME laboratory; Institut de Recherche sur le Développement; Rajdhani National Daily; United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and

[38] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 15(c)(i).

[39] Additional information on Resilient Cities 2016 is available at <http://resilientcities2016.iclei.org/>.

[40] The NWP brochure on human settlements is available at <http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Documents/Brochure%20human%20settlements.pdf>.

[41] FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, paragraph 15(a)(i).

Emergency Response; and the West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use.

52. NWP partner organizations represent a broad spectrum of expertise, experience and knowledge, and play an important role in the implementation of activities under the NWP. The NWP has been effective in catalysing targeted adaptation actions and has strengthened its capacity to enhance the provision and dissemination of information on, and knowledge of, adaptation. Figure 4 provides a distribution of partner organizations by category of institution. A further breakdown of NWP partner organizations by regional and sectoral focus is presented in figure 5.

53. Action pledges are targeted adaptation actions that partner organizations undertake in response to knowledge needs and gaps identified in support of the objective of the NWP. The COP, by decision 17/CP.19, encouraged NWP partner organizations to support the effective implementation of the NWP by reporting on the actions and outcomes associated with the fulfilment of action pledges and addressing calls for action. To date, 189 such action pledges have been made by partner organizations.

Figure 4

Distribution of Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change partner organizations by institutional category

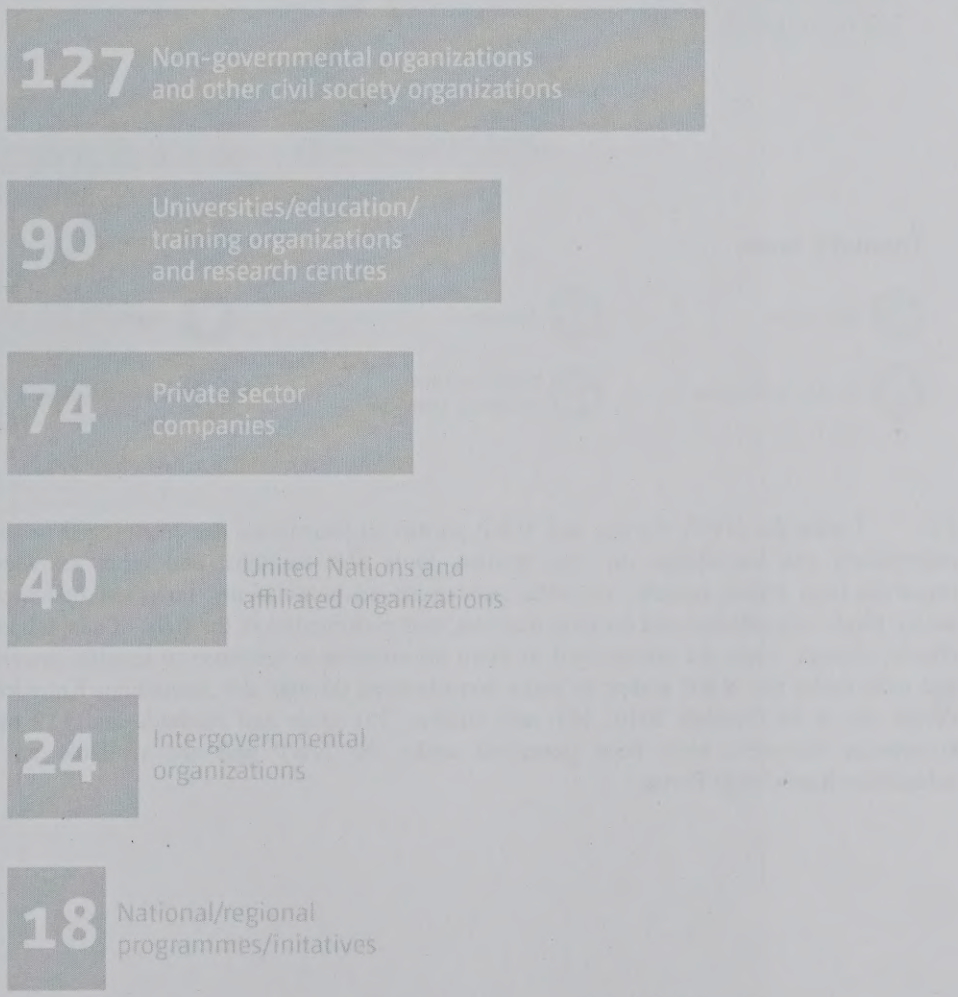
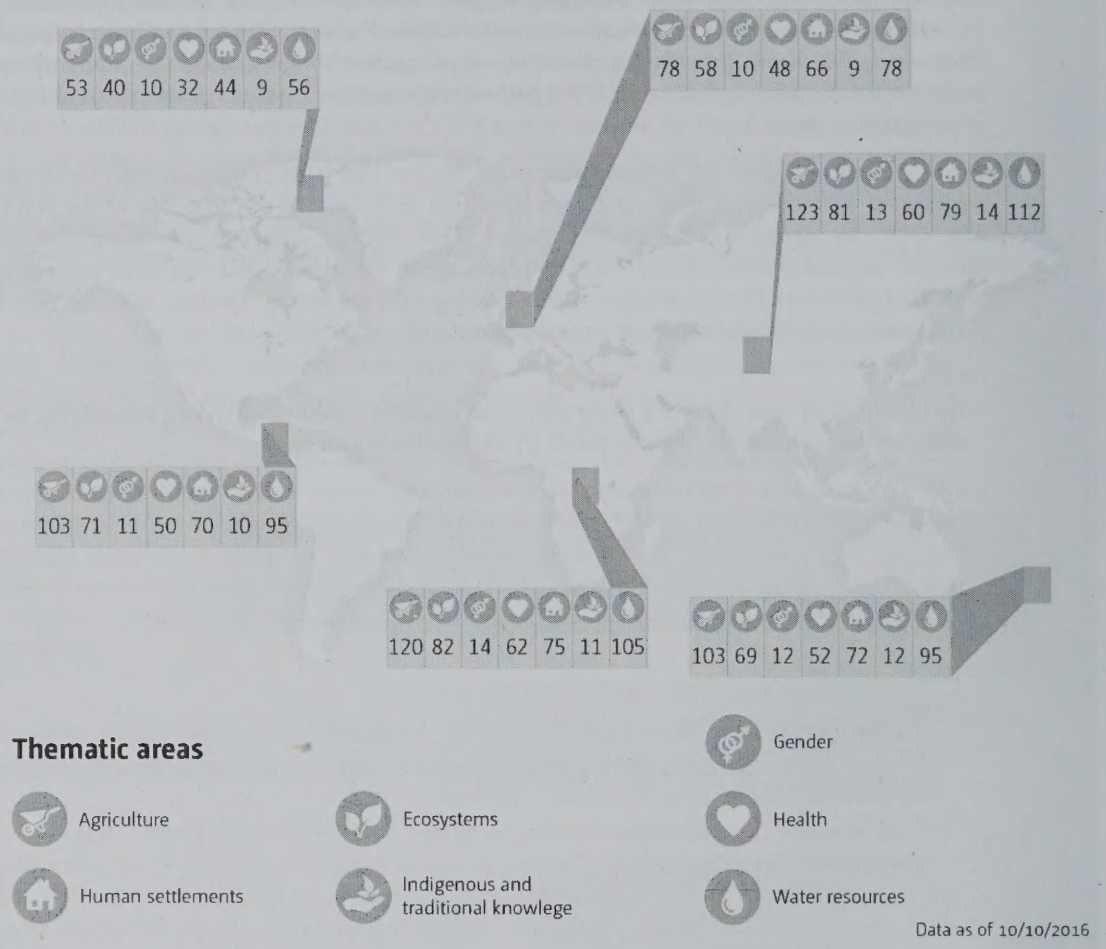


Figure 5

Overview of Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change partner organizations by regional and sectoral focus


53 40 10 32 44 9 56
78 58 10 48 66 9 78
123 81 13 60 79 14 112
103 71 11 50 70 10 95
120 82 14 62 75 11 105
103 69 12 52 72 12 95
Thematic areas
Agriculture
Ecosystems
Gender
Health
Human settlements
Indigenous and traditional knowlege
Water resources
Data as of 10/10/2016

54. Under the NWP, Parties and NWP partner organizations are encouraged to share information and knowledge on case studies, tools and methods, and other knowledge resources (e.g. online portals, scientific peer-reviewed publications, technical documents, policy briefs, educational and training material, and multimedia) in the field of adaptation to climate change. They are encouraged to share information in response to specific activities and calls under the NWP and/or to make contributions through the Adaptation Knowledge Portal. As at 10 October 2016, 351 case studies, 251 tools and methods and 119 other knowledge resources have been generated under the NWP and are available on the Adaptation Knowledge Portal.

V. Next steps on implementation of activities under the Nairobi work programme

55. In accordance with relevant mandates and activities as summarized in figures 1 and 2, the secretariat will implement activities under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, in collaboration with relevant entities, including the AC and the LEG, Parties, NWP partner organizations, and regional centres and networks.

56. Based on the results of a survey of UNFCCC national focal points, the secretariat will implement activities to enhance the participation of UNFCCC national focal points in future events under the NWP and their role in the dissemination of knowledge outputs under the NWP.

57. SBSTA 44 recognized the role of the NWP in providing support in the areas of adaptation knowledge and related stakeholder engagement to other workstreams and constituted bodies under the Convention, and noted the potential role it could play in new processes under the Paris Agreement and decision 1/CP.21. In this regard, the SBSTA invited the AC, the LEG and other relevant bodies, in accordance with their mandates and functions, to consider providing recommendations for activities to be undertaken under the NWP in supporting these new processes.

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